

ATTACKING POLICY SHATTERS HAMLET

By 'NOVA'

Wycombe Wanderers 6, Dulwich Hamlet 0

IT was ironic that after months of disappointments, failures and constant shuffling in attack Wycombe Wanderers' forward line should finally hit it off together—in their last home Isthmian League game of the season.

An experimental Dulwich side met Wycombe in an attacking mood not previously seen this season. How like the Wanderers to reserve one of their best performances for so late in the season!

It was a fine exhibition of attacking soccer, with the defence doing their part too.

With Dave Thomas—fooling no one with his appearance in the number seven shirt while still playing half-back—Charlie Gale and John Beck all well up in support of their forwards, the few times Dulwich did manage to attack they often looked quite dangerous.

John Fisher was decidedly shaky and was easily drawn out of position, while Alistair Lewis never quite coped with the Hamlet's best forward, right-winger Wootton.

These two, along with Paul Bates—a Bates who has not yet recovered his former speed or strength of shot—were the only three who had poor games.

SEASON'S 'FIND'

As for the remainder of the side, it would be hard to pick the star. Beck covered each defender and still tried his upfield burst. Thomas and Gale worked tirelessly and Worley for once released the ball at the right time. Holmes and Pullin both forged back to get the ball from their defence and Tony Horseman worked like a Trojan and challenged all the time, proving that he is undoubtedly the find of the season.

Wycombe took ten minutes to warm up and then struck their first blow. Pullin put a pass out to the wing, where Horseman beat the full-back on the outside and picked his spot just inside the post to score one of the best goals seen at Loakes Park this season.

Two minutes later Gale and Holmes combined for Horseman to pop up and score with a tremendous shot on the turn. And Horseman nearly completed his hat-trick a little later, his shot was blocked.

But a third goal had to come and after 25 minutes Gale again moved up into the attack to send away Worley, whose centre was side-footed casually into the net by Holmes.

The Dulwich attack saw little of the ball and Wycombe were soon rewarded with another goal, this time a penalty. Horseman put Bates through but as he rounded the goalkeeper the centre forward was pulled down, and the referee had no hesitation in awarding a penalty. Bates scored easily.

GALE'S FIRST

Wycombe opened the second half as they had left off the first, with storming attacks.

Then came Gale's moment of glory. Seizing on a square pass from Pullin, he hit a tremendous shot to register his first league goal for the club, a fitting climax to an excellent season for him.

Holmes twice headed over the bar, Worley shot narrowly over, and Bates and Horseman were both foiled by goalkeeper Darvill.

Then briefly Dulwich hit back a little and Lewis accomplished one of his goal-line clearances.

But Wycombe were still attacking at the close and just before the end Horseman headed the ball over the centre-half's head for Holmes to score the sixth.